



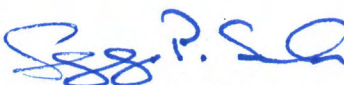
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Taking Photographs during Criminal Investigations

If a member believes it is necessary to take photographs of an individual during the course of a criminal investigation in which the individual is not taken into custody, the following guidelines shall be followed:

- A photograph may be taken without a person's consent when a member has reasonable suspicion to believe that a crime related activity has taken place or is taking place and the person he or she intends to photograph is a suspect in that crime. A photograph may be taken during a detention if it serves a specific investigative purpose. (See Department General Order 5.03, *Investigative Detentions*.)
- When there is neither reasonable suspicion nor probable cause, members may take photographs only with the informed consent of the individual. When the person's consent is given, members shall have the person write a statement on an SFPD Statement Form (377G) stating that he or she has consented to having their photograph taken. Members shall photocopy the statement and include it as a page of their incident report. The original form and the photographs shall be booked as evidence. The photos shall not be retained at the unit level.
- In order to ensure that the person being photographed understands what they have authorized, members shall provide foreign language and sign language interpreters if needed.

If the consensual photographs are not needed for further investigation, the assigned investigator shall, upon request, return the photograph to the person.


GREGORY P. SUHR
Chief of Police